[29th July 1952

*Construction of a branch railway line from Nellore to Kanigiri.*

* 292 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state whether the Government have recommended to the Government of India the construction of a branch railway line from Nellore to Kanigiri?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" The proposal was recommended to the Government of India in 1944. The Board of Transport on investigation in 1947 found it to be uneconomic and the proposal was dropped."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" What is the basis on which the construction of new railway lines is recommended to the Railway Board?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" This question relates to a Union subject."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" On a point of order, Sir. I have received definite information from the Government of India that it is only on the recommendation of the State Government that any new constructions are taken up. Therefore, it is to that extent a State subject."

MR. SPEAKER:—" It is not a State subject. The Railways come under the Central Government."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" I have had definite information on this matter. In fact, I have received a letter from the Union Government regarding this matter. They say, new constructions will be taken up only on the recommendation of the State Government."

MR. SPEAKER:—" Let me hear the main question put by the hon. Member."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" The question is—Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether the Government have recommended to the Government of India the construction of a branch railway line from Nellore to Kanigiri?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" That question has been admitted. I am speaking about the supplementary question."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" My supplementary question is, on what basis do the State Government recommend construction of new lines?"

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO:—" I would like to know, how it arises out of the main question. I have already told the hon. Member that the State Government have recommended the proposal. As I said, the Board of Transport, which is a Government of India body, considered it to be uneconomic and turned down the proposal. What the hon. Member wants to know is a matter of policy."

MR. SPEAKER:—" That is also what I am telling the hon. Member."